ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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EASTERN

PANKSTINE FILE NO 5885

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

CLOSED UNTIL

61939

1978

Si A. bedogen had, at Take Success last May, declared the Arab Higher bommittee to he "representative of the view of the Arab propulation of Polistine".

I did not remember the wording of this statement clearly enough to hath to plant out to Mr. Shawa that there is a difference between "representative of the views of" and "representative of the views of" and "representative of".

But I did make it clear to him that, if he wished to claim any representative capacity in Tenden on that of the

Now me Mr. Shawa's notification (addressed to me) that he has established himself as "Head of the Palestine Arab Political (Mission)

Office and not the Foreign Office. He

seemed to find this discouraging.

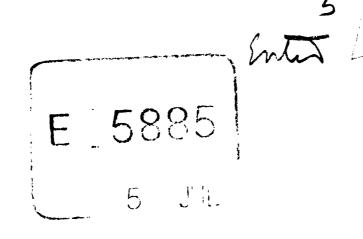
" Minutes of 47th meeting of First bommittee, p. 3]

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference:- FO 371 / 61939

Mission in Just Britain". 9 de not have whether he has sent a similar communication is the bolomist office. We at any rate will not asknowledge it. HBeeley 5/9

NOTHING

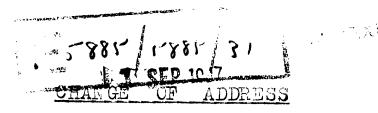


The Saudi Arabian Minister called on July 2nd and said that he had been approached by a Palestinian Arab, called Mr. Shawwa, who had once held an official position in Brudi Arabia and still trivelled with a Saudi Arabian passport. This man had produced two letters, one signed by the Mufti and another by the Arab Higher Committee, appointing him the representative in London of the Palestine Arabs. Sheikh Hafiz had pointed out to him that the Mufti was not the head of a State and had no right to appoint representatives to London or anywhere else. As the man is a Saudi Arabian, Sheikh Hafiz thought he ought to tell us, especially as Mr. Shawma would doubtless try to establish contact with us before long.

Mr. Shawwa is also to engage in propaganda on behalf of the Falestine Arabs. Palestine Arab propaganda will thus in future be run partly by the Arab Office organised by Musa Alami, and partly by their rival, Mr. Shawwa, representing the Mufti.

month

3rd July, 1947.



Izzedeen Shawa, mead of the Palestine Arab Political Mission in Great Britain, has the honour to inform you that the Mission's address is now:-

Flat 1, 76 Eaton Square, London, S.W.1.

Telephone: Sloane 8562

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON 61939

E 6138

DEPARTMENTAL NO.

Cypher/OTP

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Clarke
No. 258

10th July, 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Cairo,
Damascus,
Bagdad,
Beirut.

D: 12.00 p.m. 10th July, 1947

Robert July, 1947

SAVING.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

E 4190 /4 47

Jerusalem telegram No. 1283 to the Secretary of State for the Colonies paragraph 13.

Izzedin Shawa's participating was [grp. undec.] in Jedda. This is not his first visit to the United Kingdom in recent years. In fact I understood from him that he spent last winter in the United Kingdom.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

AMENDMENT SLIP

DEPARTMENTAL No.1.

Jedda telegram No. 258 of 10th July to Foreign Office.

Line 3. For "Shawa's participating was [grp. undec.]" read "Shawa's visa was issued".

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

17th July, 1947

SAME SAME

po attach pro.

61939

1947 PALESTINE Kondon Representative of Palistice Arabo: Viens FROM My fulonge consersation with 122EDIN SHAWA. Inferial Dalence College No. 10 M Burrows. différent à refresentative 9 Oct . Datedwith draws from Valestine. Received in Registry 3 0 cV Last Paper (Minutes.) 6138 References Another line to the Mufri of (Print)(How disposed of) Su E5885 rept . 41 Furlange

Janan
15/x
16.x

(Action completed)

Next Paper

2255 /2255/31 48

Sureral xeeperel

38538

Imperial Defence College, 37, Belgrave Square, S.W.l. 9th October, 1947.

E 1.50

Dear Burrows,

U3 000 _____

I received an unexpected invitation to lunch yesterday from Izzedin Shawa, A Paleutinian Arab whom I had known slightly in Beirut. As I gathered the impression that the only contact he had had with the Foreign Office was a brief interview with Beeley just before the latter left for the U.S.A., the following account of our conversation may possibly be of interest.

He said that he had arrived in London about two months ago as the representative of the Higher Arab Committee, and hoped eventually to be recognised as the diplomatic representative in London of the Palestine Arabs and to deal officially with the Foreign Office on their behalf; he had no desire to deal with the Colonial Office. He had opened an office in his house at 74 Eaton Square (telephone GLOane 3562). He had no connection with the Arab Office, which was "merely" concerned with propaganda and represented all the Arab States (I have been told from a Lebanese source in London that the Mufti in fact sent him here because he was distatisfied with the way in which the Arab Office was predenting the Arab case on Falestine). He also spoke slightingly of Musa el Alami, saying that he was on the wrong lines and would not co-operate with the Mufti, whom the vast majority of Arabs considered as their leader, and was therefore virtually useless to the Arab cause.

On Palestine, he said that the Arabs found it hard to believe that the British really meant to abandon their substantial material and strategic interests in Palestine and to create a vacuum into which the Russians might go. He dismissed as unthinkable the possibilities (a) that UNO would produce a solution acceptable to Arabs and Jews and (b) that the Arabs and Jews could agree on a solution even if HMG announced the date of their withdrawal and UNO failed to find any authority to put in to succeed us. He thought it highly unlikely that UNO would in fact find any such authority, as in his opinion the USA would not accept any responsibility in Palestine. What, then, would HMG do? They could hardly dump the Palestine administration and money on the floor and walk out leaving the country to chaos. Might they not therefore be forced to stay?

I explained that I had had no connection with Palestine affairs since last December and could only give him my personal opinion. It seemed to me that all this was hypothesis. The responsibility for finding a solution lay with UNO, and it could not be assumed that they would fail. If they did, then it could likewise not be assumed that some responsible Arabs and Jews would not get together. I could not see how we could be expected at this stage to plan for a situation which might never arise, the more so since what happened would depend on UNO, the Arabs, and the Jews. But I thought he could dismiss from his mind any notion that HMG did not mean what they said; public opinion in this country appeared to me to be overwhelmingly

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Reference:- FO 371 / 6193

P.A.B.Burrows, Esq., Foreign Office. in favour of getting out of Palestine as soon as possible, and I was sure that HMG intended to do so. (The High Commissioner's statement to this effect had not then been published). Shawa appeared to accept this and asked what date we were likely to fix for final withdrawal, on which I said I hadn't the faintest idea. He hoped it would be soon, as the Arabs were am ious that we should go as soon as possible and felt that any delay would be to the advantage of the Jews.

I then questioned him about the Arabs' intentions in case it came about that they were in fact left alone with the Jews, but got little of interest except that they were supremely confident that they could see the Jews off relatively easily with military aid from the other Arab States, and were making their plans accordingly. Shawa did, he ever, add that the Arabs of Talentine had been patient for a long time in the face of rejeated Jewish aggressions and were wondering, if they now started to react against the Jews, whether the British would continue to "protect the Jews" as in the past, or whether they would remain neutral. I said I was quite sure that, so long as we remained in the country and responsible for law and order, we shold repress Arab disorder as firmly as we did Jewish; and I read him a lecture on the folly of dissipating the good impression which the Arabs had created in British circles by their relatively good between and moderation in the recent past. We hastily said that the Arabs realised this and would continue to behave.

We mentioned that Fausi Kawukji, now in Syria, was in excellent fettle, contrary to reports that he had been paralysed in 1941 in Iraq. The rest

of a long conversation was of little interest.

I might mention that on October 1st I saw Adil Osseiran, a Lebanese Shia who had arrived that day by air from Beirut on his way to form part of the Lebanese Delegation to IMO, and that he expressed to me identical bellicosity and soubts as to the sincerity of British intentions to withdraw, from Palestine.

Shawa, like most Arabs, was very anti-British furing the 1936-9 period, but I seem to remember hearing that our Supply people in Saudi Arabia Found him co-operative when he was serving as Ibn Saud's Agricultural Advisor a year or two ago. On occasion I should think be might corve as a useful contact, as he is intelligent (I think he was at Oxford) and presumably has the ear of the Mufti.

Yours ever,

S. W. Furlage

RECORD OFFICE, 6193

No. E 9458/5885/31

B. A. B. B.

Draft.
Mr. Furlonge, Imperial Defence College.

Relegiam

(From Mr. Burrows)

DOSPAICH XX

Dear Furlonge,

Many thanks for your letter of October 9th, about Izzedin Shawa. We have a note by Beeley in our files about his meeting with Shawa/in August. We can of course give hum no official recognition and he ought properly to deal with the Colonial Office, but we will bear in mind the possibility of making use of him as a channel if circumstances should make this desirable.

I was glad to hear from you again and hope we may meet before long. If you are ever in or near the Foreign Office, do come and see me.

(E 9458/5885/31)

PORMICH OFFICE, S.W.1.

21st October, 1947.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Furlonge,

Many thanks for your letter of 9th October. have a note by Beeley in our files about his meeting with the person you mention in August. We can of a cree give him no official recognition and he ought property to deal with the Colonial Office, but we will bear in mind the possibility of making use of him as a charmel if circumstances should make this desirable.

I was glad to hear from you again and hope we may meet before long. If you are ever in or near the Foreign office, do come and see me.

Yours ever,

(Sqd.) Bernard Burows.

(B.A.B. Burrows)

G.W.Furlonge, Ssq., O.B.E. Imperial Defence College, 37, Belgrave Square, S.W.1.

RECORD OFFICE,